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The debilitating power of emotional violence is not only in the humiliation it inflicts. Its victims are also made to feel helpless and often become ill. Its pernicious presence can be felt everywhere, at work, in the family, at school or in relationships; its perfidy lies in its casual, incidental use. All this combines to make it difficult for victims to fight back effectively.

Be it the employee called in to a crisis meeting by their manager, the child punished by its parents withdrawing their love and support or the woman whose husband makes fun of her in front of their friends, emotional violence damages our psychological and physical wellbeing, sometimes irreparably. It causes stress hormones to be released that lower the pain threshold and weaken the immune system. Victims are also at increased risk of depression and panic attacks.

Yet the overall social impact of emotional violence is often underestimated. Although there is hardly a sphere of our lives where we’re safe from its humiliating effects, we can empower ourselves to counter the potential damage it can cause. Based on the latest scientific research, Werner Bartens’ accessible, supportive book shows us how.

- Werner Bartens’ previous books were translated into 14 languages.
- “Werner Bartens, you are a genius!” Stern
- Rights sold to Korea (Woongjin Think Big).

Werner Bartens is chief science correspondent at the Süddeutsche Zeitung. He is one of Germany’s most influential science journalists. Many of his successful books, including What Holds Partnerships Together, Happiness: The Medical Perspective and Why We Hate Doctors have spent months on the SPIEGEL bestseller list.
Eckart von Hirschhausen / Tobias Esch
THE BETTER HALF
What to Look Forward to in the Middle of Life

When we reach the halfway point in our lives, many of us sometimes start feeling tired and listless. Stress seems to be needleling us from all sides, with our jobs, our kids and even our parents all taking their toll. Meanwhile, the first irrevocable signs of ageing start to mar our bodies. But is it all just downhill from 40? Emphatically not, say Eckart von Hirschhausen and Tobias Esch, two doctors who are convinced that the opposite is true! Most people feel better about themselves in the second half of their lives, they argue.

This book records an inspiring dialogue between two physicians that documents their search for the kind of happiness that grows with experience, maturity and wisdom. Along the way they talk about new role models and discuss the latest scientific thinking while linking back to their own (ample) life experience. The result is nothing less than a little miracle: readers of this book will start looking forward to getting older!

- Rights to Miracles Work Wonders were sold to: Estonia (Pegasus), Korea (Eunhaengnamu), Romania (Paralela), Russia (Eksmo) and Spain (Obelisco).
- Miracles Work Wonders spent over 90 weeks on the SPIEGEL bestseller list and more than 560,000 copies were sold!
- Rights to Eckart von Hirschhausen's titles were sold in 14 countries!

Dr. med. Eckart von Hirschhausen, born in 1967, studied medicine and journalism. For fifteen years, he’s been a fixture on German stages as a cabaret artist, speaker and author. He is known for his incisive wit coupled with thorough advice. Under the banner “Humour can heal” he founded the German Red Nose Day and helps arrange hospital visits by clowns. His bestselling titles The Liver Grows with Its Tasks, Happiness Rarely Comes Alone and Miracles Work Wonders sold more than 5 million copies, making him one of the most successful authors in Germany.

Prof. Dr. med. Tobias Esch was born in 1969. He was a pioneer figure in holistic medicine and an expert in the neurobiology of happiness. During his career he made vital contributions to integrative approaches to preventive health care and is a guest professor at Harvard Medical School as well as an associate researcher in neuroscience at the State University of New York. Since 2016, he worked as a lecturer and researcher at the University of Witten/Herdecke. His most recent book was The Self-Healing Code.
Our body fat comes from eating fat, doesn’t it? It’s a widely held belief that if you want to slim down and get fit you should avoid fats. That was the universal consensus of everyone from the World Health Organisation to Weight Watchers.

But it’s wrong. The low-fat dogma ushered in the biggest obesity epidemic in history; at the same time many chronic diseases became more widespread. This was fuelled by financial interests and bad evidence spread by poorly informed politicians and a press that didn’t look closely enough.

Anne Fleck’s book dispenses with the myths about fats, showing that they are fundamental to a healthy diet. As a macronutrient, fats are the best fuel for the body’s energy needs and help prevent cardiac disease, depression, obesity, Alzheimer’s and cancer. Her informative book explains how this “big fat lie” got into our heads and how we can use healthy fats to strengthen and heal our bodies, getting slim and healthy in the process.

The author’s previous book Schlanke! (Slim!) spent many weeks on the bestseller list

Dr. med. Anne Fleck is an internationally recognised expert on preventative and nutritional medicine. As an educator and moderator, she works to support modern health approaches. She is a bestselling author also known to a wider public through her work on Germany’s TV show “Die Ernährungs-Docs”. Anne Fleck lives and works in Hamburg and runs a successful practice.
To dance is a lifestyle! Dance, health and happiness belong together: Dancing is a work-out for mind and body – it exercises our muscles, trains our balance and coordination, reduces stress, and it is a better protection against dementia than any crossword puzzle. It relieves the symptoms of anxiety and depression, boosts our self-esteem and trains our empathic abilities. Dance is also a reliable companion in matters of the heart. ‘Putting your red shoes on’ not only protects against heart disease, it might even save your love life: because sometimes the way to someone’s heart goes through their dancing feet.

A scientific conference on a Greek island, the Greek God of healing and dance, Apollo, and two young neuroscientists with a passion for dance provide a charming background story for many surprising and fascinating scientific facts about why humans dance, how dance is a means of expression and why dance is a social glue. The authors explain why dance is a symbol of beauty and seduction, while at the same time possessing the power to heal our mind and body.

- Discover why dancing makes us healthier, happier and smarter than most other hobbies
- In the past 10 years, neuroscience has started to uncover how dance piggy-backs key neurobiological processes in the human brain that are important for our health and well-being
- Interest in dance: UK TV show ‘Strictly come Dancing’ has 13.1 million viewers (Ref. The Guardian) UK TV show “Dancing with the Stars” has 8 million viewers and has been licensed in 42 countries including Spain, Italy, France, Denmark and many countries of Latin America, including Argentina
- Rights have already been sold to Korea (Book 21).

Dr. Julia F. Christensen studied psychology and neuroscience in Spain, France and the UK and obtained her PhD from the University of the Balearic Islands. Her research on the neuroscience of dance has been featured in international newspapers including the Washington Post and the New York Times. She has been awarded several scholarships and prizes. Today she lives as a researcher in London and is a passionate Argentine tango dancer.

Dr. Dong-Seon Chang studied biology at the University of Konstanz, cognitive science at the Rutgers University in the US, and holds a PhD from the Max Planck Institute for Cybernetics in Tübingen, Germany. He enjoys presenting his research on social neuroscience on stage and on TV. He has won several Science Slams and his first book My Brain has a Mind of Its Own made it onto the bestseller lists. He lives and works in Seoul and is a passionate swing dancer.
Laura Malina Seiler
YOU’RE ONE IN A MILLION!

We all want to lead a meaningful life that serves not only ourselves but also others. All too often, we’re stopped from forging an authentic path forward in our lives by a lack of self-confidence and a set of beliefs that limit our outlook. We’re scared of what other people think about us or feel that we’re not good enough.

This enlightening book encourages us to lead an extraordinary life in which we can believe in ourselves and our creative potential. It reminds us that we are the creators of our own success and aims to show us how to live a successful life – on our own terms.

- “Berlin’s young Oprah Winfrey!” Grazia
- The author’s #1 podcast “Happy, Holy & Confident” was downloaded more than 5 million times.
- Seiler has more than 35,000 subscribers on YouTube and more than 80,000 followers on Instagram.

No one combines spirituality, mindfulness and coaching as impressively as Laura Malina Seiler. With her #1 podcast “Happy, Holy & Confident” and her live online programme “Rise Up & Shine University” she has created a new, modern spiritual movement. Her focus is creating a new awareness for people’s own potential. Through her coaching sessions, she has helped thousands of people to find their own, authentic path in life.
Ann-Marlene Henning, Denmark’s (and maybe Europe’s) leading sex advice professional, has written a new book, this time about men. Teaming up with sexual therapist Jesper Bay-Hansen, she dispenses with a host of myths and clichés (men are always ready and able, for example). She offers ways of countering sexual performance pressure and gives advice on sexual technique, genital massage and pelvic floor exercise.

Written in a relaxed and easygoing tone, this book is a frank yet empathetic look at the male body and male sexuality in a way that is occasionally funny but never awkward.

- Includes many illustrations by Louis Harrison and photographs by Erik Engelhardt
- Rights to Henning’s *The Practice of Love* have been sold to: English World (Greystone Books) and to Lithuania (Baito).

Ann-Marlene Henning was born in Viborg/Denmark in 1964. She studied neuropsychology in Hamburg and sexology in Denmark before moving to Switzerland to complete a sexocorporeal sexology study course there. She is a practicing psychotherapist based in Hamburg specialising in couples’ and sexual therapy.

A general practitioner, Jesper Bay-Hansen also offers expertise in cognitive therapy and positive psychology. He is the director of a therapeutic practice in Copenhagen for couples and sexual therapy. He has garnered wide renown through his many books and speaking engagements.

rororo
October 2018
304 pages

“This cool, uninhibited advice book redresses a number of misconceptions.” *Bild der Frau*

“Ann-Marlene Henning has finally brought the topic of sex out from its dark, dirty corner.” *Brigitte Wir*
Wherever we go, whatever we do, we leave traces behind, even when we’re trying not to. The wind catches a sweet wrapper and carries it off, fingerprints cling to a surface for years. We also imprint ourselves into the memories of people we meet, our families and friends. Sometimes an off-the-cuff remark to a stranger reverberates with that person for years. Something of us remains in the world, even when we leave it. The smell left behind by a parent on their favourite pullover, money in the bank, a selfie uploaded to a Facebook page, a father’s favourite joke.

Some traces are ephemeral, some indelible. Reading this book constantly prompts us to ask: What would I leave behind if I had to flee my home, right now? What would I take with me? Should I ask my grandma about her childhood while she’s still able to tell me about it? When was the last time I did a backup of my most important data? How much is my sense of humour influenced by my partner? And when I’m gone for good, what will remain of me and my life? Who is going to remember me, and can I influence that?

Sven Stillich’s thought-provoking new book is an investigation into the biological, psychological and cultural traces we leave behind, the “residue” that remains when we leave a place, a person or the world behind.

“We leave behind us traces in the world without noticing, and we change its development. There are no monuments or memorials, often not even a “thank you”. But our lives continue in those of others. We store people within us. For some, that’s just a function of our brain, for others, it’s a great source of comfort.”

A gripping investigation into the the traces every one of us leaves behind.

Sven Stillich was born in 1969. He studied linguistics before attending the prestigious Henri Nannen School of Journalism. Since then he has contributed to a range of newspapers and magazines and worked as a sub-editor. For many years, he ran a blog, “Verweilen im Vorübergehen”, where he published photos, stories and thoughts from everyday life. He is active in Hamburg’s underground art scene and is working on a long-term creative project, “Erfundstücke”. His book Second Life: How Virtual Worlds are Changing Our Lives was published by Ullstein in 2007.
“Images say nothing.”

Teachers and demagogues, revolutionaries and terrorists, warriors of the culture wars and anyone who likes sending selfies: all these groups share a faith in the power of images. No one can be forced to think if they don’t want to. Humans may possess the faculty of reason, but we are free to decide if we want to follow its conclusions. If you want to get your message across, use the senses instead of arguments. If you want to change something, make a visual impact.

Our trust in the visceral power of imagery is an implicit belief in the innocence of seeing. Can a picture do what thoughts are incapable of and instantiante immediate, unfiltered perception? Images have the power to engender bonds that are beyond the scope of mere thought, like a shared group identity: Images can create the “we”. After all, has any idea had the same impact on humans as ideals? Has reason ever won out over tradition and culture?

This volume completes a trilogy by the philosopher Bettina Stangneth on her theory of a “dialogical thinking”. Here, she once again forces her readers to reconsider long-cherished prejudices. Ugly Sight is an insightful, expertly argued essay on the nature of seeing.

- Rights to Thinking Evil were sold to: France (Calmann-Lévy), the Netherlands (Atlas) and Sweden (Daidalos).
- Rights to Deciphering Lies were sold to: the Netherlands (Atlas Contact) and Korea (Dolbegae).

Bettina Stangneth was born in 1966 and studied philosophy in Hamburg, writing her doctoral thesis on Kant and the notion of “radical evil”. She received the Cundill Prize Recognition of Excellence Award in 2015 for her book Eichmann Before Jerusalem, which the New York Times also pronounced to be one of that year’s best. Her most recent publication by Rowohlt was her widely praised book Deciphering Lies (2017).

Rowohlt Verlag GmbH, Hamburger Straße 17, D-21465 Reinbek
Ulla Lachauer
OF BEES AND HUMANS:
A EUROPEAN JOURNEY

Bees have a special place not only in our culture but also in our global ecosystem. Researchers liken the condition of the bee population to a seismograph for the state of the natural world. Recent and alarming data have provoked intense discussion about bee populations, both in the science community and across popular media.

The ancient art of beekeeping has also seen a growth in popularity. But what stories do the people who dedicate their lives to caring for these fascinating and useful creatures have to tell? What role do bees play in their biographies? How do apiarists grapple with the challenges of globalisation and with growing interest in bees among the general population, or confront threats to their insect populations, such as the dreaded Varroa mite? What is the effect of politics and war on the bees’ microcosm? And what special perspectives do beekeepers have on the natural world and human society?

Ulla Lachauer’s book profiles fourteen beekeepers from across Europe, dotted around locations as diverse as the Baltic island of Gotland, northern Germany’s Lüneburger Heide, Stuttgart and the Black Forest, the French Pyrenees, the Austrian region of Kärnten, Ljubljana, the Jizera Mountains in Bohemia and the Russian enclave of Kaliningrad.

A vibrant mixture of genres and subjects including travel writing, biology and human sociology, this absorbing and multi-faceted book is fueled by Ulla Lachauer’s curiosity into the natural world and her warm empathy for people from all walks of life.

- Rights to Lachauer’s Paradise Lane have been sold to Lithuania (Baltu Lanku Leidyba), Poland (Fundacja Pogranicze) and Russia (Text Publ.).
- More than 280,000 copies were sold of Paradise Lane.


Rowohlt
July 2018
384 pages

“Amazed, one reads how colorful and diverse the world of beekeepers is. And so this book is an important addition to the numerous bee books of recent years - and is highly recommended for this reason.”
Deutschlandfunk Kultur
Holger Schulz
HARBINGERS OF CHANGE

The biologist and stork expert Holger Schulz sees storks as the harbingers of worrying changes for our planet. Like many other birds, storks are increasingly exposed to the dangers of the modern world. Pesticides have reduced the availability of their staple diet, while in southern Europe poorly maintained electricity masts kill thousands of storks every year. Meanwhile, the droughts caused by global warming threaten the storks’ wider environment.

A passionate scientist with a great love for the natural world, Holger Schulz has accompanied storks on their journey from Europe to Africa and here offers many fascinating insights into the life of these wonderful birds.

The international expert on storks shows us what storks can tell us about the dramatic situation of our planet.

The biologist and journalist Holger Schulz is 63 and lives in Bergenhausen/Germany. He has contributed to many animal documentaries produced by multinational teams for the German TV programme ARD, “Expedition ins Tierreich”. Schulz is an internationally recognised expert on storks and has written several scientific books about them.
The rise, fall and rebirth of Berlin: A fascinating history of one of the world's major cities

The social climber of European capitals, a laboratory of modernity, a symbol of the fractures that blighted the 20th century: Berlin is the quintessence of both German and European history. Jens Bisky keeps both contexts in sharp focus throughout his absorbing history of Germany’s largest city. It begins with the founding of old Berlin and Cölln on the banks of the River Spree, later uniting to form a new versatile and open city.

It opened its gates to Huguenots fleeing persecution and under Prussian rule welcomed leading Enlightenment thinkers. Berlin later became a metropolis of the proletariat and industrialists, of bankers and Nobel Prize winners, becoming the place to be during the Roaring Twenties. Bisky’s expertly woven story also details its destruction during the Second World War and the tension that engulfed the city after 1945 when two superpowers faced off across its streets.

An authority on Prussian history, Jens Bisky lays before us the history of Germany’s capital with a level of expertise and detail unseen in decades. This is a fascinating story of the rise, fall and rebirth of a city yet also a panorama of German and European history reflected in the history of a unique metropolis.

From the birth of old Berlin to the divided city after WWII and to Germany’s modern capital, the historian Bisky enfolds a fascinating story of German and European history.

“Jens Bisky is the deserving heir to Günter de Bruyn’s writing on Prussia. This book is a lively and intellectual joy from beginning to end.” Der Freitag on Our King

"Jens Bisky is a storyteller we enjoy listening to.” Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

Born in Leipzig in 1966, Jens Bisky studied cultural sciences and German language and literature in Berlin. He wrote for the Berliner Zeitung and has been a staff writer for Süddeutsche Zeitung’s Feuilleton arts and culture section since 2001. He has also authored several well-received books, including Born on August 13th (2004), Kleist: A Biography (2007) and Our King: Frederick the Great and His Era (2011). In 2017 he was awarded the Johann Heinrich Merck Prize by the German Academy for Language and Poetry for his literary criticism and essays.
World War II was the focal point of the 20th century; without a deep understanding of this momentous conflict, we would not be able to comprehend either Hitler’s Weltanschauung or the post-war era and the subsequent division of Germany and Europe. Despite countless previous studies, this book closes a significant gap in scholarship of the period by delivering succinct and focussed answers to the most fundamental questions.

Was the Second World War a continuation of the First? Why did the Allies misjudge Hitler for so long? How did this European conflict become a global war, how did this affect the Holocaust and what role did the German army play in its horrors? And why did Germans follow their Führer into the abyss?

Reuth’s exploration of the irrational nature of German politics explains why World War II developed into a conflict like no other before or since. His compellingly concise book delivers a panoramic perspective that reveals the roots of World War II, how it unfolded and why its effects are still felt to this day.

- Reuth’s comprehensive presentation closes a significant gap and answers the most fundamental questions about WW II.
- The author’s previous books have been translated into various languages and have spent months on the SPIEGEL bestseller list.

Born in Oberfranken in 1952, Ralf Georg Reuth completed his doctorate under the supervision of Andreas Hillgruber, writing about Germany’s Mediterranean strategy. He has written many books about the Third Reich, including the first edition of Goebbels’ diaries as well as biographies of Goebbels and Hitler which have since been translated into many languages.
After the collapse of the Third Reich, many Nazi officials quietly continued their careers in the new Federal Republic of Germany. Their diligence in the service of Hitler’s ideology was matched only by their fervour in supporting the new democratic order. High ranking Nazi military court judges continued to run trials, professors previously loyal to the regime carried on teaching and journalists who had worked on state propaganda wrote for newspapers as though they had been lifelong democrats. While this gave the young state political room for manoeuvre, it created a moral void that could not be filled. Democracy was being built, at least in part, by its enemies.

This ruthless reckoning with the early history of the Federal Republic coincides with the nation’s 70th anniversary. Willi Winkler’s spellbinding and densely factual account describes how West Germany became a successful nation despite being deeply conflicted. He also examines the contribution of ‘reformed’ Nazis to that success. A parable about guilt, shame, reconciliation and coming to terms with the past, this important work is a must-read for anyone who wants to fully understand modern Germany.

Born in 1957, Willi Winkler was a staff writer at DIE ZEIT, headed the culture section at Der Spiegel and today writes for the Süddeutsche Zeitung. He has also written many books; in 1998 he received the Ben Witter Prize, and in 2010 was awarded the Otto Brenner Prize for critical journalism. He also won the 2013 Michael Althen Prize.
Stefan Appelius
THE RAUE GROUP:
A FAMILY OF COLD WAR SPIES

One of Germany’s biggest post-war spy cases

During the first years of the Cold War, in a divided Berlin before the Wall, Olga Raue, her husband and brother-in-law spied for the CIA, first in East Germany, later in the Soviet Union. Motivated by deep political convictions, Olga learned the so-called ‘trapecraft’ of spies, using dead drops in Moscow, becoming versed in cryptography and uncovering a Russian underground hydrogen bomb factory. After her betrayal by a close friend, she was detained in the Stasi’s infamous Hohenschönhausen prison in Berlin. Her fellow spies were also caught.

While she was in captivity, the Stasi attempted to turn Olga, requesting that she spy on the CIA for East German counterintelligence. But Olga refused to even countenance betraying the Americans. After six years in prison, the West German government bought her freedom; she finally left the GDR in 1977. For many years, she remained silent about her experiences. When the political science researcher Stefan Appelius was told by one of Olga’s fellow captives about the adventures of the “Raue Group”, he contacted Olga, who finally began to talk openly about her covert past. Appelius has since examined hundreds of pages of classified material, even managing to unmask the American CIA officers involved whose identities had remained unknown even to the Stasi.

The electrifying results of his research combine in this spellbinding book with its characters’ personal backgrounds, love stories, jealousy, political convictions, youthful idealism and exuberant zest for life to offer a multi-faceted panorama of a politically tense era.

Born in 1963, the freelance researcher and author Stefan Appelius lives and works in Berlin. His specialist areas are history, political parties and politico-social movements. He is a professor of politics at the University of Oldenburg and a member of a research group at the Free University of Berlin focussing on the history of the East German state.

“Now I can talk about what happened. Everyone else is dead.”
Olga Raue

“I had and have no feelings of guilt. I wanted to do something good. Something good for Germany.”
Olga Raue
Many continental Europeans believe the British are making a monumental mistake. Leaving the EU, they argue, has cost them their reputation as a reasonable and pragmatic nation. Is this picture accurate or are we seeing a development in the opposite direction? Have Britons cleverly recalibrated their famed ‘common sense’?

In his incisive new book, Jochen Buchsteiner probes the circumstances and effects of Brexit and reaches a conclusion that will startle many Europeans: Brexit is not irrational. Despite complicating relations across the English Channel, Brexit is founded on understandable and honest motives rooted in the UK’s history and geography. Buchsteiner analyses the British sense of “otherness” that, compared to other Europeans, makes them more passionate about freedom and cooler in their views on Europe.

One thesis explicated here is that Brexit, rather than the result of populists’ seduction of the electorate, is a consequence of justified criticism of the current state of the EU and a response to problems in recent developments in the “liberal model”. When Britons prioritize freedom and sovereignty above their standard of living, they are reversing the priorities of a logic of European convergence that is in crisis.

No-one, Buchsteiner admits, can know where Brexit will lead us. But it wouldn’t be the first time, he reminds us, that the British embark on a process that other nations on the continent will be confronted with later. He goes on to assert that Europeans should react to Brexit with curiosity and humility rather than scorn and ridicule. Making the divorce as painful as possible, Buchsteiner says, is a short-sighted display of weakness. The scepticism of the status quo underlying the decision of British voters is growing among electorates elsewhere in the EU. Buchsteiner’s conclusion: If the EU doesn’t learn from its mistakes and take appropriate action, Brexit might yet become the death knell of the European Union.

If the EU sees Brexit as an unfortunate accident, it’s mistaken. Buchsteiner analyzes the decision of the Britons as a consequence of justified criticism of the current state of the EU.

Jochen Buchsteiner was born in 1965. He studied politics and general rhetoric before becoming a parliamentary correspondent for DIE ZEIT in Bonn and Berlin. He reported from Asia for the FAZ and has been the paper’s London correspondent for the last six years. 2005 saw the publication of his book, The Asian Era: Why Europe is Being Pushed Aside.
“We grew up believing that you could open any door if you just kicked it hard enough.” But then millennials realised that real life wasn’t a fairy tale. “The worst thing is when you finish your studies and you’re facing 40 years of work.”

The young journalist Bianca Jankovska has written a glittering, provocative and eloquent reckoning with today’s society in which she bitterly attacks insecure work contracts and unstable social relations and laments her peers’ inability to form lasting relationships – and life in general.

A provocative reckoning with today’s society written by a new young voice.

Bianca Jankovska was born in Vienna in 1991. She studied media and political science before joining Spiegel Online to work on its new portal, bento. She left after a year to pursue a career as a freelance contributor to bento.de, wasson.ch, Vice, ze.tt, Progress magazine, Vienna’s Falter weekly magazine and many other print and online outlets.
Margarete Stokowski
THE LAST DAYS OF THE PATRIARCHY

Is it OK, in our current era following the feminist revolution, for men to hold doors open for women? What about making compliments? Insecurity about possible answers seems widespread. While people all over the world are fighting sexism and abuse, women still earn less than men, clean and care more and die earlier. Margarete Stokowski’s new book pokes a finger in the wounds that others would happily ignore; for her, resignation is not an option.

Here she writes trenchantly about injustices many have long accepted simply because they are part of everyday life. She discusses women’s bodies and how they’re talked about, pornography and unisex toilets, #MeToo and #Aufschrei while addressing issues such as right-wing extremism and the question of why feminism and racism are mutually exclusive.

Margarete Stokowski is one of Germany’s most important feminist writers whose work gives us hope and reminds us that it’s a good thing to stay angry, show our attitudes while still keeping a sense of humour. This book is a collection of and commentary on her best essays to date.

Stokowski’s previous book *Freening Up Down Below* sold almost 40,000 copies! Rights have been sold to Korea (Booklog).

Born in Poland in 1986, Margarete Stokowski has lived in Berlin since 1988. She studied philosophy and social science at Berlin’s Humboldt University. As a freelance writer she has contributed to newspapers such as *faz* and *DIE ZEIT* and her own column for *Spiegel Online*, “Oben und Unten”, launched in 2015. Her successful debut, *Freening Up Down Below*, has become a standard work in modern feminism.
Anja Reschke
MEDIA, POLITICS AND MORAL PRINCIPLES: SHOW SOME BACKBONE!

Moral honesty is once again a hotly debated topic, with many demanding that people in politics and the media take a more principled stance on the issues. Journalists, politicians and whistleblowers who show moral character garner praise and likes – as well as online abuse. But what does it mean to have moral principles, to be counted, to make your voice heard? What role models can we follow? What do moral principles have to do with courage and when do they mutate into intransigence and prejudice?

Since Anja Reschke’s famous public stand on the refugee issue in 2015, many pointed to her as the archetypal principled journalist. In turn, she began to reflect more deeply about ethical principles in public life. This well-argued and instructive book presents her thinking on a pressing and timely issue.

Reschke’s book is an remarkable account on the hotly debated topic of moral courage.

Anja Reschke has produced many award-winning pieces of reporting and is a respected commentator on social and political issues. In 2015, she made a public plea against racist rabble-rousing which found widespread support. She has received multiple awards for her principled stand and her work in journalism, including the 2015 Journalist of the Year prize. In 2016 she was nominated for the German Television Award.
We lose a lot of objects over the course of our lives, like house keys and gloves. But sometimes we also lose track of intangible, immaterial things such as ideas, convictions or feelings. Suddenly, we realise that we have lost hope, that our personal motivation and energy for life is ebbing away. Or we suddenly discover a new passion, a new belief in ourselves or a greater purpose.

The authors of this inspiring book have collected personal ‘lost and found’ stories, inviting their readers to accompany them on a fascinating journey, an expedition into the inner lives and workings of people – and to reflect on their own self and sense of purpose.

Patrick Bolle, born in 1970, grew up in the Swiss mountains and graduated in Cultural Management and Sociocultural Animation at Lucerne University of Applied Sciences in Switzerland. With his office “Kulturbande” he examines social change in order to understand, promote and document it. In addition, Bolle initiated numerous cultural events. Patrick Bolle is married and lives in Zurich.

Andrea Keller, born in 1981, studied journalism in Switzerland, attended art school and completed a yoga and coaching training. She is the deputy director of a museum and has been working for years with written forms of self-reflection and the creative, empowering potential of language and creative expression – including as a director of writing workshops for the poor. Andrea Keller lives in Thalwil near Zurich and in Winterthur.
What happens to our relationships when our partners forget to love us back, when they can’t get up or talk, can’t use the toilet on their own or need 24-hour care? What happens when two lovers become carer and patient, when partners turn into dependents? How does this transformation affect the patients, their carers and their children?

Birgit Ehrenberg’s moving and insightful book follows the life story of several couples and relates the many challenges faced by those involved. Along the way, these remarkable stories show us that life and love sometimes follow extraordinary paths that can take us anywhere, including the best places in our lives.

- An important topic which affects more and more people: What happens when two lovers become carer and patient, when partners turn into dependents?
- By means of several stories of affected couples the author describes an impressive lesson in love.

Born in 1962, the journalist and former philosophy student Birgit Ehrenberg writes for people looking for advice about love and relationships in difficult situations. Her expert guidance has appeared in many magazines like Bild, Emotion, Für Sie, Brigitte, Donna, Hohe Luft, My Way, Men’s Health, Welt am Sonntag and the online magazine Beziehungenweise. Birgit Ehrenberg lives in Hamburg.
Frank Wenzlow lost the love of his life to cancer. But instead of giving up and wallowing in his grief he founded an association that aims to fulfil people's last wishes, be they to watch their football team one last time, spend a last Christmas with the family or go on one final trip to the seaside.

Journalist Alexander Krützfeldt accompanied Frank Wenzlow to learn about what moves people when they reach the end of their lives and the hopes and regrets that emerge when they feel that their time has come to leave this life. This remarkable book shows what these last wishes reveal about life in general and about what we can do for ourselves and others. It's an eye-opening book that encourages us to live in a more conscious, fulfilled way.

How will we look back at our lives just before we die – and what will we regret?

Alexander Krützfeldt was born in Achim in 1986. He has contributed to Süddeutsche Zeitung, Die Zeit, Krautreporter, Vice and faz. He is also a curator on piqd.de, where he presents valuable and well-written content from across the web. His widely acclaimed SZ series entitled “Acht Häftlinge” was nominated for several journalism prizes. He lives in Leipzig.
Although Nico was a pop icon, she was also for many a deeply enigmatic figure. Among those bedazzled and intrigued by Nico were Fellini, who cast her to play herself in *La Dolce Vita*; Andy Warhol, who discovered her for his Factory and Lou Reed, whose band recorded “I’ll Be Your Mirror” with Nico on lead vocals. But where did her life story begin?

As a girl, Christa Päffgen played amongst the ruins of the German capital. As a young woman, she often strolled through Berlin’s KaDeWe department store, where she was discovered by a fashion photographer and turned into the first supermodel of West Germany’s *Wirtschaftswunder* period. In Paris, Nico soaked up the existentialist atmosphere that pervaded the city; in New York she became part of the Pop Art movement. Her ethereal charisma entranced everyone she met yet also revealed an acute inner darkness. Nico’s drug addiction, meanwhile, deepened ever further. Yet she soon embodied a unique style that drew its energy from the shadows of the night.

Tobias Lehmkühl’s book tells the story of an exceptional artist that encompasses two hemispheres and fifty years, beginning in post-war Berlin before moving to Paris and ending among New York’s glamorous avantgarde. This fast-paced biography is an empathetic portrait of a fascinating woman.

Tobias Lehmkühl was born in 1976, and works as a freelance journalist in Berlin. He writes features for print and radio, essays and critiques, mainly for the *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, *Die Zeit* and *Deutschlandradio Kultur*. In 2017, Tobias Lehmkühl received the Berlin Literature Prize.
“You’re my father.”
A circumstance that fills me with joy.
“I didn’t know that when I was little. I’m not sure if you did, either. I was nearly 40 when we met for the first time, you were almost 80.”
Yes, Jakob, we were too old.

The novelist Martin Walser and the journalist Jakob Augstein are father and son. In this book, they talk about Martin Walser’s life, about his youth in Wasserburg near Lake Constance, about his father who read Hölderlin and his mother who ran their guest house. They talk about the war, about writing, money and the casino in Bad Wiessee, and about Uwe Johnson and Willy Brandt. Sex isn’t a fitting subject, Walser says, and so instead they talk about life and prayer.

Jakob Augstein probes Martin Walser about his controversial speech in St Paul’s Church in Frankfurt and his public feud with the literary critic Marcel Reich-Ranicki. Auschwitz and Germany’s past also play a vital role in this conversation, of course, being an essential component of Walser’s œuvre. And they also offer perspectives and views on their own lives.

Martin Walser belongs to the most important contemporary writers in Germany. His son Jakob only learned that Martin Walser is his biological father when he was an adult.

**Martin Walser** was born in 1927 in Wasserburg and now lives in Überlingen by Lake Constance. He is among Germany’s most important writers and has received numerous awards for his work, among them the Georg Büchner Award and the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade. He has also been decorated with the order Pour le Mérite and was appointed Officier de l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres. In 2015 he was awarded the Nietzsche Prize for his life’s work.

**Jakob Augstein** was born in Hamburg in 1967. He studied politics, German language and literature and theatre studies in Berlin and Paris. He worked for DIE ZEIT and Süddeutsche Zeitung, including a period as the editor of the latter’s ‘Berlin’ page. In 2008 he took over the helm at the weekly Der Freitag newspaper, becoming its managing editor and editor-in-chief. He also writes a column for Spiegel Online.
Hans-Dieter Rutsch
A WANDERER
The Life of Theodor Fontane

Theodor Fontane is widely regarded as the greatest writer of ‘old Prussia’, yet also as a keenly modern thinker. Hans-Dieter Rutsch’s book rediscovers Fontane, detailing his life and exploring his world in both contemporary and modern contexts. Neuruppin, the town of Fontane’s childhood, still houses the apothecary shop that his father gambled away. His son also became an apothecary and developed a deep interest in politics.

In 1848 Fontane fought on the barricades in Berlin and at the age of 30 decided to become a full-time writer. His journey led him to Paris as a war correspondent where he was arrested as a spy; to London where he witnessed the problems caused by industrialisation and to Silesia and Brandenburg, where he engaged in deeper studies of human nature. Although Fontane saw these journeys as either literary or journalistic commissions, he often left his family behind in precarious circumstances.

This book examines a uniquely clear-sighted writer who produced a radically novel body of work. Ceaseless in his labours to describe early Modern Germany, Fontane’s yearning for simplicity and a slower pace of life also echoes current critiques of today’s culture.

Born in 1954, Hans-Dieter Rutsch worked as a dramaturg, author and director at the DEFA documentary film studios in Babelsberg. In 1995, he founded Havel-Film Babelsberg. He has completed over 50 documentaries, many of which are focussed on East German and Eastern European history. His book The Last Germans was published in 2012; he received the Cultural Prize of Silesia for his 2016 book The Prussian Arcadia.
Iwan-Michelangelo D’Aprile
FONTANE

Theodor Fontane (1819-1898) was one of the most modern writers of his era. He penned ballads about American steamboats and Scottish train accidents in Scotland; as a journalist and novelist, he accumulated a wealth of ideas and material, some of which he used in his literary experiments with genres and formats. This process reminded him of the medicines he mixed in his apothecary’s laboratory, he said, “until the mixture was right”.

Here Iwan-Michelangelo D’Aprile, an expert on German language and literature, pries the author of Effi Briest and Der Stechlin away from his Prussian environs and embarks on a search for traces of Fontane across the increasingly accelerated, electrified and globalised world of his time. We meet Fontane at the opening of the first German train lines, travel with him as one of the first package tourists on the high seas and join him on the barricades of 1848 before accompanying him as an elector to the first freely elected parliament in German history. We journey with him to London where he is employed as a correspondent and witnesses a new kind of war reporting supported by photography and the telegraph. We look on as he writes about the downfall of Prussia and formulates his criticism of colonialism.

In old age, he becomes a driving force in the cultural scene of the nascent German empire’s capital city, inventing the Berlin social novel and becoming the idol and supporter of the young avantgarde. D’Aprile’s lively and sagacious depiction of Fontane’s life expands his biography into a panorama of the 19th century, creating an exciting and multi-layered work sure to stimulate renewed interest in Fontane’s oeuvre.

The literary critic and historian Iwan-Michelangelo D’Aprile was born in Berlin in 1968. His research has included work on the cultural history of Berlin in the 19th century as well as the history of journalism. He is a professor at the University of Potsdam, where he teaches Cultures of the Enlightenment.
Mareile Höppner
WHAT COMES AFTER THE QUEEN?

Is it the pomp and the ceremony, the sumptuous coronations and luxuriant birthday celebrations? What is it about the Windsor family that attracts avid fans and intense interest far beyond the British Isles? People from around the globe confess to having fallen in love with the British royals.

And thanks to Queen Elizabeth, the British monarchy is also seen as a socially engaged family monarchy with close links to charity work. We’re by turns amused and shocked by the family’s scandals, while we secretly wipe away the odd tear during their weddings and baptisms.

Mareile Höpner examines the fascination the British royal family exerts on the rest of the world and asks what will come after the long, stable rule of HM Elizabeth II when it finally ends.

The British Royals are an international phenomenon between politics and tabloid press. What will come after the long rule of the Queen?

TV personality and journalist Mareile Höppner was born in Lübeck in 1977. Since 2008 she has hosted “Brisant”, an MDR production for the national ARD TV network, winning the Audience Prize at the 2013 Bambi awards. She also hosts other entertainment shows and since 2010 has often appeared with Rolf Seelmann-Eggebérd during Germany’s TV coverage of major events featuring the British royalty.
Despite the tiredness and stress, parents need their wits about them. Sometimes they need to come up with inventive ways of bringing their point across. Like Isa’s method of tipping a load of salt onto her kids’ burgers at McDonalds when they’re not looking to turn them off fast food for life.

Or André’s idea that culminates in his son – who likes staying out very, very late – phoning home only when he notices that his possessions are being sold off on eBay as the estate of someone who “has evidently died”. If you’re not getting anywhere being understanding and patient, try these out; even if they don’t work, they’re a lot of fun.

- Rights to Just Kidding have been sold to the Czech Republic (Portal)
- Just Kidding spent 67 weeks on the SPIEGEL bestseller list.

Johannes Hayers, worked for market research companies before he started writing for radio and TV programmes as an author. He lives in Düsseldorf.

Mia L. Meier studied cultural sciences, worked in marketing and writes for several German magazines. She lives and works in Freiburg.

Backlist:
Brave Siegfried a snooty and conceited old sod with a bad sense of humour? The lovely Kriemhild a bad bitch, and her brother Gunter a penny-pinching old git? Was Hagen a bold and clear-sighted statesman with overtly homo-erotic tendencies? Did a bad bank gamble away the Rheingold?

Freeing these famed sagas from their tortuously bardic style and homing in relentlessly on all the juicy details that many retellers of these stories studiously avoided, Stefan Schwarz’s brilliant repackaging of old Nordic legends is bursting with verve, sparkle and, well, dirt. Deploying his abundant wit and keen sense of irony, Schwarz’s texts are populated by many famous names from Nordic folklore. But they aren’t the unaunted heroes and beautiful damsels we’re used to. These figures are all too human: murky, bursting with life and unexpectedly easy to empathise with.

This book is ideal for anyone that needs to fill some embarrassing gaps in their literary knowledge but doesn’t want to fall asleep in the process. It’s a clever and entertaining reimagining of ancient sagas that brings them back to life in a stunningly accessible way. Even immortal stories live on only if they are retold anew.

Stefan Schwarz was born in 1965, and is an experienced (i.e. several-time) husband and dedicated father. He writes columns, plays and material for TV. His readings have become must-see events. Stefan Schwarz’s most recent publications were the successful novels Swinging Hips With Nancy (2010), This Might Hurt a Little (2012), A Great Russian Lady (2014) and Up to the Brim (2017).

Rowohlt Verlag GmbH, Hamburger Straße 17, D-21465 Reinbek
Mathis Ochsenmeier began dreaming of his own van in Latin class in the tenth grade. With two lessons of Latin translation before him, he started to daydream about what else he could do with his time – his dream of owning a VW van and travelling the world in it took hold. But often things aren’t as simple as they seem.

First, you have to find the right model, then get it through its roadworthiness check and deal with breakdowns – all without any experience as a mechanic.

Then, with his school leaving exams behind him and his journey about to begin, he fell in love.

Mathis Ochsenmeier’s book tells of searches, discoveries, a lot of axle grease and the challenges of growing up.

Mathis Ochsenmeier, born in 1998, grew up near Karlsruhe. After his journey with the VW bus, he started studying mechanical engineering in Karlsruhe since 2017. His YouTube channel “Mathisox” has 132,000 fans.
Politically independent and courageous, Jafaar Abdul Karim is a mediator between the German and Arab communities. In this book he relates his experiences of meeting with a wide variety of people, including those he has accompanied and supported over long periods in their lives.

He talks in detail about private and family experiences in the Arab world, too, examining aspects of daily life that are starkly different in German and Arab cultures. He also explores ideas of how to bridge those divides and how both communities can better understand one another.

Jafaar Abdul Karim hosts the Arab-language youth programme ShababTalk for Deutsche Welle. As a columnist and video journalist he has worked for Deutsche Welle, Die Zeit and Spiegel Online. He was named Reporter of the Year in 2017. He was born in 1981 in Liberia; his parents come from Lebanon. He grew up there and in Switzerland before studying in Dresden, Lyon, London and Berlin, where he now lives.
75% of women will end up with less than €400 a month from their pension. Women tend to earn less, and a husband doesn’t qualify as a pension plan. Natascha Wegelin is convinced that more women should be organising their financial affairs themselves and becoming more independent of the state and their partners.

Bank advisors and financial service providers, however, make that more difficult. Natascha Wegelin wants to help women overcome their fear of buying shares or creating their own investment portfolio. Her book offers a wealth of advice for women on how to develop personal savings and investment strategies.

More than 15,000 copies sold since publication!

Natascha Wegelin, born in 1985, is an entrepreneur and private investor. After a Business Management and Administration degree and a first work experience at Parship and Google she founded her own business at the age of 26. Since 2016, she runs the blog "madamemoneypenny.de" to specifically inform women about financial independence. It also offers webinars and seminars for women on personal finance.
Jürgen Kaube is a managing editor and education expert at the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung and the father of three children. His new book was a reaction to his experiences in both these arenas and formulates a provocative thesis: Given how they are currently run, schools are too stupid for our children and built on a fatally flawed design. Schools teach kids things they neither need nor want to learn and will quickly forget. But schools also react far too sensitively to external pressures; the much-vaunted ‘digital classroom’ is as useless as the numerous spelling reforms or the ‘language laboratory’.

In Kaube’s analysis, we need to pare teaching down to the crucial minimum: schools should teach children how to think, and that’s it. But today’s curricula consist only of things that are easy to set as exam questions. That’s the opposite of good education and teaching how to think. From this provocative standpoint, Kaube goes on to formulate demands which he says will free our schools from unnecessary and distracting burdens.

Jürgen Kaube’s book transcends decades-old discussions about education policy and defies categorisation in terms of left/right or conservative/progressive. This timely and provocative book looks set to spark an intense new debate.

Rights to The Beginnings of Everything were sold to: China (Liaoning Science and Technology), Korea (Gimm-Young) and Portugal (Saída de Emergencia).

Jürgen Kaube began his career as a sociology lecturer at the University of Bielefeld, among others, before joining the editorial team at Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung. In 2008 he took on the role of editor of the paper’s content on the humanities, and in 2012 he was made deputy head of its Feuilleton section. In 2012 he was awarded the accolade Science Writer of the Year by medium magazine. His 2014 biography of Max Weber met with much acclaim. In 2015, Jürgen Kaube became one of the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung’s managing editors, and was awarded the Ludwig Börne Prize the same year. Kaube is a renowned science writer.
At the beginning of their relationship, Daniel seemed to be the love of Vanessa’s life. Then he became aggressive, unpredictable and violent. When Vanessa ended their relationship, he lost control and ambushed her, dousing her face with sulphuric acid. Vanessa narrowly survived the attack and spent weeks in a coma. The left side of her face was permanently disfigured and she lost one eye and an ear. She has since endured over twenty operations and her recovery is still ongoing. Yet, she maintains, “This misfortune is the best thing that could have happened to me because it’s only now that I know how strong I really am.”

**Vanessa Münstermann** was born in 1989. She trained as a cosmetician and lives in Hanover. After suffering an acid attack by her ex-boyfriend in 2016, she set up an association, AusGezeichnet e.V., to support other victims of violence and those disfigured by similar attacks.

rororo
January 2019
256 pages
Oliver Lück's new book shows Germany from a perspective that many might not yet appreciate, namely as a culturally diverse nation. He portrays 16 different people, each from one of Germany’s 16 federal states, who, despite not being famous in the traditional sense, can inspire us because they lead lives that have crossed boundaries.

They all have a deeply personal set of views and an unconventional approach to thinking. Instead of romanticising their biographies or naively retelling some rose-tinted version of their life stories, Oliver Lück shows empathy and insight into the lives of these remarkable individuals.

Oliver Lück, born in 1973, lives in “the land between two seas”, in Schleswig-Holstein. For over 20 years he has worked as a journalist and photographer while travelling through Europe collecting stories from people who have stories to tell.
Bijan Kaffenger
DO POLITICIANS ACTUALLY HAVE A JOB?

29-year-old Bijan Kaffeenger has been politically active for many years. And he refuses to let his Tourette’s hold him back. Bijan wants to change the world.

But among his peers, that makes him a misfit. Bijan is convinced that the political apathy of his generation is caused not by smartphones but by the fact that they can only vote for old people who don’t bother to explain the issues and don’t represent their interests. Bijan isn’t just convinced that there aren’t enough alternatives, he wants to be the alternative.

**Bijan Kaffeenger** was born in 1989. He was a member of the committee running the youth wing of his local branch of the Social Democratic Party and vice-chair of the SPD’s youth wing in Hesse. While engaged in politics as a hobby, he and fellow students formed the Critical Economists group at the Goethe University in Frankfurt. He is a spokesperson for the SPD’s Frankfurt economics forum. In October 2018, he stood for election to Hesse’s state parliament. His YouTube channel, *Tourettikette*, is run by the Funk media group and has received over one million clicks.
Many Germans have a negative view of the German armed forces, believing it striated with neo-Nazis and sadistic officers. While a recent series of scandals rightly attracted harsh criticism, Nariman Hammouti-Reinke also knows that they don’t define the Bundeswehr. Here, she examines the Bundeswehr’s role in an objective, non-partisan way. Why do soldiers often find themselves subjected to scorn and ridicule in Germany? What responsibilities do individuals have for the society in which they live?

As a soldier and a Muslim, Nariman-Hammouti-Reinke offers insightful and important answers to these pressing wider questions. In her own words: “That I serve in the Bundeswehr and am prepared to die for Germany is the highest form of integration”.

Nariman Hammouti-Reinke was born in Hanover in 1979 to Moroccan parents. She joined the Bundeswehr in 2005, serving two tours in Afghanistan. She is currently an Officer Specialist. As an independent, unaffiliated member of the Commission for Migration and Participation of the Parliament of Lower Saxony, she campaigns for modern integration policies.
There is no such thing as a stupid question, just stupid answers. And the three rappers Doktor Renz, König Boris and Björn Beton aren’t short on those. What can you do about your annoying parents? How can I stop the neighbour’s dog eating my chickens? And why do women shave their eyebrows and then paint them back on? Don’t let questions like these keep you up at night. Fettes Brot might not know everything, but they do have an answer to even the most inane questions. And they are nothing if not hilarious.

**Fettes Brot** have been a mainstay of the German rap scene for 25 years, pumping out one chart hit after another. Songs like “Nordisch by Nature”, “Jein” or “Emanuela” are among the country’s best-known pop tracks. After releasing 13 albums and playing countless tours, Fettes Brot now have their own radio show, “Was Wollen Wissen”, or “What Do You Want to Know?”

rororo
February 2019
224 pages
“I notice things. Some of them enrage me. And because my impulse control is often on the blink, I need to vent. My religious symbol is a pair of crosshairs. A razor’s edge is my dancefloor. And my feet are tingling right now.”

This encapsulates the philosophy behind Micky Beisenherz’s wildly successful column in Stern magazine. A skilled, multi talented media operator, his descriptions of daily life, provocative ideas and scalpel-sharp analysis often cause heated debate and an extensive media echo. Micky Beisenherz is a maestro of the social media orchestra.

*Micky Beisenherz was born in the Ruhr area in 1977. Formerly a radio journalist, he is now one of the nation’s most sought-after writers, contributing to successful programmes like “heute-show”, “extra 3” or the German version of “I’m A Celebrity… Get Me Out Of Here”.*
Lisa Feller
THINGS ARE LOOKING UP
(BUT MY BREASTS AREN’T)

Women today blaze through life at breakneck speed. Lisa Feller skips hectically between TV studios, parent evenings at school, women-only shortlists and sex toy parties run by Tupperware sellers – if only the day had 26 hours!

An immensely likeable and headspinningly energetic 42-year-old, comedian Lisa Feller has written a cheeky and hilarious new book about the craziness of everyday life and the strange gravity field affecting her breasts. A star of the comedy circuit on TV and the stage, Lisa wears her heart of gold on her sleeve.

The actor, comedian, presenter and mother-of-two Lisa Feller is a member of the Placebo theatre group based in Münster. She became widely known with the comedy series “Schillerstraße” and has been a frequent guest on tv shows like “Hirschhausens Quiz des Menschen”, “Night Wash” and “Ladies Night”. She is currently on tour with her stand-up act, “Next Please!”

rororo
February 2019
256 pages
Torsten Sträter is renowned for his laconic humour and unique spoken word style. But before he became famous as a stand-up comic and poetry slammer he was lucky to have an influential patron in the form of comedian Knacki Deuser, inventor of the long-running TV show NightWash. Using Knacki’s expert advice, Sträter rose to the status he enjoys today as a leading comic performer and writer.

Here, he uses Knacki’s best bits of advice as a lens through which he looks back at his career, recounting how he got his start in comedy, his first stage appearances, his worst failures on both small and big stages, and the nonsense we all put up with in our daily lives. His inimitable style shines through on every page: biting, sarcastic and extremely entertaining.

Klaus Jürgen Deuser, born in 1962, has worked as an entertainer since the mid-80’s and has been a pioneer for the German comedy scene. He is the creator of the legendary comedy show "NightWash", which paved the way for future comedians and artists and which won the German Comedy Award in 2017. Today he lives in Cologne and works as a producer and a coach.

Torsten Sträter, born in 1966, grew up with the usual parameters: wearing knit-sweaters, watching the American tv-show "Daktari" and then taking a bath on every Saturday evening. He was 41 when he first set foot on a stage for a poetry-slam performance. Since then, things have been going well for him and today he is used to performing on large stages and even on TV. His own TV show "Sträter’s Männerhaushalt" is being shown on the German TV channel WDR and he is part of the extra 3 team and a permanent team of the ARD show "Nuhr im Ersten".

rororo
December 2018
256 pages